

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
Monday, June 16, 2014
Cecil F. Gilkerson Community Activities Center

The regular monthly meeting of the Harrisonburg Parks and Recreation Commission was held on Monday, June 16, 2014 at the Cecil F. Gilkerson Community Activities Center. The following commissioners were present: Chair John Marr, Steve Barranco, DD Dawson, Joe Riley, Abe Shearer and Ritchie Vaughan. Also present were Lee Foerster, David Wigginton and Wanda Jones from Parks and Recreation.

1. Welcome – Chair John Marr welcomed all present.
2. Approval of May Meeting Minutes – with no additions or corrections, the minutes of the May meeting were approved.
3. Welcome New Commission Member – John welcomed new commissioner Ms. Ritchie Vaughan.
4. Initial Review of Policy Manual Revisions – Lee handed out the revisions Parks and Recreation has made to date and asked the commissioners to read over them for discussion at a later date.
5. Project Updates:
 - a. Ramblewood - The irrigation system is being installed. Some of the light poles are installed and the restrooms and press box are set.
 - b. Morrison Park- Tennis Courts and Parking Lot – The handicap parking area is finished and the pathways from the parking area, restrooms, shelter and play area are paved. The tennis courts have been resurfaced with markings for pickle ball.
 - c. Westover Skate Park Resurfacing-The skate park has been resurfaced with a royal blue surfacing material and some of the Skatelite panels have been replaced.
 - d. Dog Park-The bids for the fencing are in at \$45,700.00. This includes enclosing 2.2 acres with a fence down the middle and 4 to 5 gates. The completion deadline is August 15th. The park may open Labor Day.
 - e. Westover Park- Currently we are waiting for the paver to pave the parking lot and the pathways. The water department will come in next with the water lines for the fountains.
 - f. Smithland-The water department is currently installing water lines and the irrigation line should be installed this fall for pad four. Players may begin using the field next spring.
6. Issue with bear population at Riven Rock Park-Five bears has been sighted at Riven Rock. The trash receptacles are currently being emptied at dark. Soon we will be emptying the receptacles at 2pm and at night. We will also be installing special cans. If this doesn't work, the park may have to be designated as a carry in, carry out park.
7. Comments, Questions from Commissioners-Where is the methane from Ramblewood being vented to? There are vent ditches with a fan system to drain underground gasses off to the northeast corner of the fields. Is this above DEQ standards? Yes, this is very heavily monitored. Any chance of areas settling? Very little. This is an older landfill, so settling has already occurred. Was CDBG money used for Westover Park? Yes. What is the cost of the special trash receptacles for Riven Rock Park? A 32 gallon can with shipping cost approximately \$200.00/can. A suggestion

was made to wait a month or more before purchasing more cans to make sure bears cannot destroy them. What is the cost of one bear proof dumpster? \$24,000.00 vs. several cans at \$200.00/can. Redline PA has a splash park purchased with DCR funding. Have we looked into this type of funding? Yes, but they look more favorable at trails and water access. Public Works was granted one for Bluestone Trails. Westover Waves starts tomorrow. There are so many children enrolled, they have had to turn children away that cannot swim at least 25 yards. This is the first year children have been turned away. The bike coalition worked on the Hillandale trail system over the weekend but did not complete the job. Would Parks and Recreation be willing to help? We cannot divert labor at this time. It should be a pre-requisite for the Harrisonburg High School mountain bike team to work the trails. Another option is to use the Boy Scouts to work a section of the trail or maybe host a Boy Scout Jamboree to work the trail for a biking badge.

8. Adjournment-with no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

With no new business to discuss, the commission voted not to have a July meeting. The next scheduled meeting is Monday, August 18, 2014 at 6:00pm for a tour of ongoing projects.